

Designing and renovating a Norfolk house

How To Use the Norfolk Pattern Book

The following step-by-step procedure describes how to use the Pattern Book for homeowners who are interested in renovating or adding on to their house and for individuals who are interested in constructing a new house.

STEP 1: Identify Your Neighborhood

Whether you own an existing house or are building a new house, refer to the Neighborhood Patterns section of the Pattern Book (pages B-4 through B-13) and review the three eras of neighborhood building described.

If you already own a house, select the era which your neighborhood most closely resembles. Read about the individual components—such as the typical front yard depth, streetscape character, house spacing, landscape treatments (both public and private)—that define your neighborhood.

If you are searching for a lot on which to build your new house, the Pattern Book can also be helpful. The Neighborhood Patterns section provides an overview of the unique characteristics of each era of neighborhood building and a listing of many Norfolk neighborhoods that fall within each era. This introduction can direct you to the neighborhoods that have characteristics that interest you.

If you are building a new house, refer to Step 4. Otherwise, continue to Step 2.

STEP 2: Identify the Architectural Style of Your House

Once you've familiarized yourself with the era of your neighborhood, identify the architectural style that most closely resembles your house.

The Overview in the beginning of the Architectural Patterns section (pages C-14 and C-15) describes in visual form the predominant architectural styles found in Norfolk. The Table of Roof Pitches on page C-18 in the Renovations section might also be helpful in identifying the style of your house.

If your house does not have an identifiable style or is a mix of two styles, select one for it that would work best with its massing and height.

STEP 3: For Additions & Renovations

For information on appropriate means of modifying your house (whether historic or post-war) refer to the Renovations section (pages C-18 and C-19) and the Additions section (pages C-20 through C-22). These sections describe strategies for adding on extra rooms or garages as well as changing or replacing exterior components such as windows, doors and materials. The Transformations section (pages C-23 through C-25) explains how to achieve an architectural style for your house through both renovations and additions.

STEP 4: For New Construction

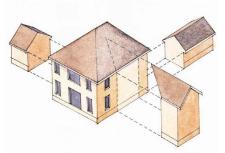
If you are planning on constructing a new house, refer to the Building a Norfolk House section (pages C-16 and C-17) which outlines the step-by-step process of composing a Norfolk House and relates the individual elements, such as windows, doors and porches, to the architectural styles (described in Step 5).

For ways of placing your house on a lot, refer to the typical house lot drawing which is shown for each era of neighborhood in the Neighborhood Patterns section. The diagram describes the typical "zones" of a house lot, such as front yard, front facade, side yard, and private zone, all of which vary depending on the era. The accompanying text describes appropriate placement of the house on the lot.

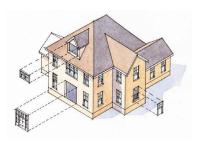
Also review the Garages & Other Ancillary Structures section (C-26 and C-27) which explains how to locate your garage and ancillary structures on your lot

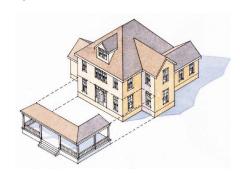
STEP 5: Review the Architectural Style Sections

Six architectural styles found in Norfolk are documented in the Pattern Book: Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, European Romantic, Arts & Crafts, Victorian, and Coastal Cottage.



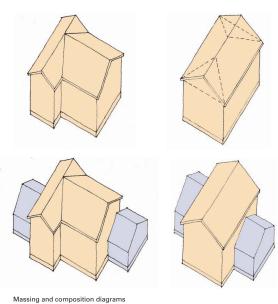






O V E R V I E W





Character sketch of a Norfolk Arts & Crafts house

HISTORY & CHARACTER

The first page of every architectural style section begins with a brief description of the style and its history. Photos of relevant examples of the style in Norfolk have been documented and are shown along with the essential qualities of each style. A partial elevation drawing and measured cross section relay the critical vertical dimensions and elements of the facade.

MASSING & COMPOSITION

This page describes the basic massing types or shapes of houses found in the Norfolk precedents for each architectural style. Each massing type is shown as a three-dimensional image with a corresponding elevation diagram showing potential additions. The layout of rooms should be designed to fit into the massing types found within the particular style you are designing. The roof types are part of this overall massing description.

WINDOWS & DOORS

The window and door spacing is related to both the shape and the style of the house. Typical window and door compositions are illustrated as part of the massing illustrations for each style. Typical window and door proportions, trim details and special window or door elements are illustrated on a separate page within each section.

PORCHES & CHIMNEYS

Porches are essential elements of the character of many Norfolk neighborhoods. The location and design elements of porches are covered on this page. The massing of the front porch is specific to each house type and distinct within a particular style.

Chimneys are a key element in the composition of the elevation for some of the styles. Massing and details such as chimney caps are outlined on this page.

MATERIALS & APPLICATIONS

This page of each style section in the Architectural Patterns includes a list of acceptable materials and their application. Also included on this page are handdrawn elevation "possibilities" composed using elements described in the Pattern Book to illustrate the end result achieved if one follows the guidelines of the Pattern Book.

GALLERY OF EXAMPLES

This last page of each style section contains both a collection of photos of Norfolk houses in that style as well as detail photos of porches, doors and windows.

STEP 6: Review the Material Manufacturers List in the Appendix

Please review the list of material manufacturers for items such as doors, windows, columns, and moldings. Keyed to the appropriate architectural style, the list

can serve as a reference or resource when searching for the appropriate building supplies from local sources.

STEP 7: Review the Resources List in the Appendix

For those who are interested in learning more about Norfolk's residential architecture, architectural styles in general, Norfolk's history, or available resources from the City of Norfolk, this list provides a handy reference.

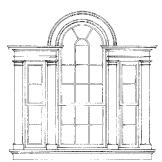




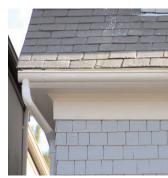
Style examples



Identifying or selecting a porch



Identifying or selecting a window



Material options example

